

MINUTES/APPROVED

North Haven Memorial Library Board Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2009

Minutes

Attendance: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kaercher at 7:30pm.

Present: Sarah Aziz, Lois Baldini, John Carlson, Patricia Dortenzio, Michael Fletcher, Raymond Fowler, John Graef, Phyllis Kaercher, Erin MacDonnell. (Secretary, Mary Ann Santora)

Absent: Kimberly Carew, Dorothy Mautte.

1. Ray Fowler moved that the minutes of the September 17th meeting be accepted. Seconded by E. MacDonnell.
2. John Carlson questioned if book budget has gone up this year. L. Baldini responded that it has not increased. \$10,000.00 was taken from this account two years ago. The balance in the book account will be spent by the end of the year. M. Fletcher moved that the Financial Statement for October, 2009 be accepted. Seconded by J. Graef.
3. Old Business: P. Kaercher noted the launch of One Book on November 18th.
4. New Business:

Director's Report: The budget sheets were received on November 12th. A 0 increase has been requested. The only increases are to be contract driven. Union contracts are in negotiation or expiring. LEAP budget will decrease by \$54.00.

The budget workshop will be held on January 20th from 5:30-6:00. It would not be the responsible thing to ask for additional funding this year. Originally, self checkout machines were to be requested, however those are expensive and will be removed. A request for ergonomically designed furniture will be made.

L. Baldini commented on the Friends generosity, and we also get fine money. There are some endowments so we spend the interest. R. Fowler asked about utility lines and if personnel is lost, can it be replaced. L. Baldini does not know whether we will be able to replace staff as there is a new administration taking over.

S. Aziz questioned the use of VHS tapes. L. Baldini responded that they are very popular and and get much use. They are no longer purchased for the library. When they are worn out they will not be replaced.

E. MacDonnell and P. Kaercher will meet with Lois on the budget which is due to town hall on December 8th.

The Roof has been fixed. After a rainstorm there was water found in in the Community Room. This was reported to the Finance Director and the roofer is scheduled to come in on November 20th. The roof is guaranteed for a year for repairs.

The Department of Labor Career Bus visited the library again on November 10, 2009.

Pamela Borgwald replaced Deborah Ward. She has library experience as well as experience in arts & crafts. Sue Griffiths left for a full time job at Quinnipiac College. Katherine Donohue who also had previous library experience replaced her.

Memorial plaques for garden have arrived. Public works will be replacing them soon. They will be placed in the ground with concrete. These were gifts from the Friends of the Library.

The North Haven Education Foundation is a private foundation run through the school system. It awards plaques to Community Stars. L. Baldini was approached several times to permanently display these plaques in our lobby. She doesn't feel that this is the place they should be. John Parise was to be here to discuss this with the Board, however he could not make it. He asked if the Board would form a subcommittee to discuss this issue.

Discussion: E. MacDonnell commented on the size. P. Kaercher said they are a private group and have no connection to the library. She thinks the sub-committee approach is part of a divide and conquer move to split the Board. This opens the door to private groups. The Director was instructed to inform him that he could speak to the full Board. J. Carlson suggested they be told that that the consensus of the Board is that they are not in favor of it. This opens doors to other groups, a mix of public and private.

The Community Read kickoff was held on November 18th. It was very well attended.

Ida Caccese, who originally funded the Roger Blood Endowment, has passed on. We were notified that she left more money to the library. The will is currently in probate.

The Friends of the Library bookstore has earned \$25,000.00 in two years. The Friends voted to purchase two display cases to replace folding tables in the Adult Department.

At the next meeting, the First Selectman will organize the Board; will call for nominations.

4. Other: R. Fowler was nominated to be on the Board of Ethics.

5. The next scheduled meeting will be held on January 21st at 7:30 p.m. J. Carlson moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:14pm. Seconded by J. Graef.